UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/715,693	11/17/2000	Nader F. Mir	UKRF-104A	8557

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EXAMINER
STEVENS, ROBERTA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2665	

DATE MAILED: 11/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/715,693	MIR, NADER F.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Roberta A Stevens	2665	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _06 August 2004_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-22_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1,2,14 and 20_ is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) _3-13,15-19,21 and 22_ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1, 2, 14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Dantu (U.S. 6532088 B1).

3.   Regarding claim 1, Dantu teaches a network (figs. 3 and 6) for routing a plurality

of data segments containing address information, comprising: a first second and third

switch element (300, 312, 316, 320) each comprising a respective external input for

routing data segments into the network and a respective external output(fig. 4) for routing

data segment out of the network; a first bi-directional coupling between the first and

second switch elements, a second bi-directional coupling between the first and third

switch elements, and a third bi-directional coupling between the second and third switch

elements; and a first controller (figure 4, 400) for interrogating the address information of

each of the segments inbound into the first switch element, any of the inbound data

segments received by the first switch element to be directed out along a selected exit path

way; whereby the exit pathway for any inbound data segments received is selected

according to the address information of the inbound data segment, and if a contention

exists for the exit pathway, further according to a priority designator of the data (col. 9,
line 37 – col. 11, line 39): the exit pathway to be selected from the group consisting of: if
the first switch element is an outbound destination for the data, the first external output
and one of the bi-directional couplings in communication with the first switch element
(fig. 10).

4.   Regarding claim 2, Dantu teaches (figs. 4) the external input is in direct
communication with a first input-port processor; the external output is in direct
communication with a first output-port processor; each bi-directional coupling comprises
an optical fiber link; and any of the data that arrive at the first input-port processor, do so
as optical signals (col. 9, line 37 – col. 11, line 39).

5.   Regarding claim 14, Dantu teaches (figs. 3 and 6) a method for routing a plurality
of data segments through a network having first second and third switch elements (300,
312, 316, 320), comprising: providing a first bi-directional coupling between the first and
second switch elements, a second bi-directional coupling between the first and third
switch elements, and a third bi-directional coupling between the second and third switch
elements; interrogating an address information of each of the data segments routed by
way of a respective external input (fig. 4); and selecting exit pathway for any inbound
data segments received address information of the inbound data segment (col. 9, line 37 –
col. 11, line 39), and if a contention exists for the exit pathway, further according to a
priority designator of the data: the exit pathway to be selected from the group consisting
of: if the first switch element is an outbound destination for the data, the first external

output and one of the bi-directional couplings in communication with the first switch

element (fig. 10)

6.   Regarding claim 20, Dantu teaches (figs. 3 and 6) a computer readable program

code on a computer readable storage medium for routing a plurality of data segments

through a network having first, second and third switch elements (300, 312, 316, 320,

comprising: a first program sub-code for interrogating an address information of each of

the data segments routed by way of a respective external input (fig. 4); and selecting exit

pathway for any inbound data segments received address information of the inbound data

segment, whereby a bi-directional coupling is provided between the first and second

switch elements, between the first and third switch elements, and between the second and

third switch elements; and a second program sub-code for selecting exit pathway for any

inbound data segments received address information of the inbound data segment (col. 9,

line 37 – col. 11, line 39), and if a contention exists for the exit pathway, further

according to a priority designator of the data: the exit pathway to be selected from the

group consisting of: if the first switch element is an outbound destination for the data, the

first external output and one of the bi-directional couplings in communication with the

first switch element (fig. 10).

Allowable Subject Matter

7.   Claims 3-13, 15-19, 21 and 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected

base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the

limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

8.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to Roberta A Stevens whose telephone number is 571-272-
3161. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am-5:30pm.

9.   If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the
organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

10.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the
Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for
published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status
information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For
more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you
have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business
Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Roberta A Stevens
Examiner
Art Unit 2665

STEVEN NGUY
PRIMARY EXAMI